

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 10, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Mr. Bushemi read the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Miano and Mr. Widing were absent. All other members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRATIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated February 10, 2015.

Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2015. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Spann announced the Town of Merrillville received reimbursement of \$46,155 from Lake County Homeland Security & Emergency Management. This is from the presidentially declared disaster, Arctic Blast, on January 5-9, 2014. The reimbursement is for the amount the town expended due to bitter cold and snowfall. Mr. Spann went on to thank Mr. Markle for a job well done. At the next workshop, Mr. Hardaway would like to discuss how to handle the private snow plowers and residents who are leaving the snow on the streets. Some communities in the area have an ordinance for this issue that the town can look into.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Miano was absent, no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mr. Widing was absent, no report.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Mrs. Miano was absent. Parks Director, Jan Orlich had the opportunity to visit Mr. Lake and his facility. They are working on partnering with some environmental programs for the spring/summer brochure. Ms. Orlich had a meeting with CEO of Legacy Foundation, Carolyn Saxton. The Legacy Foundation is Lake County's philanthropic partner helping the non-profit community. They offer multiple grant opportunities for non-profits and units of government that may benefit the Town of Merrillville. Ms. Orlich would like the council to review the information provided and possibly set up a workshop to discuss taking advantage of the different grants available.

Ms. Orlich announced an open meeting at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 13, 2015 at the Pruzin Center for residents 55 and older to discuss programs, activities and trip options. Ms. Orlich updated the calendar on the website so that residents can utilize it as a valuable resource. She also presented a rough copy of the spring/summer brochure to the town council so that they can see the look of it. Ms. Orlich is in the process of working on developing the fee structure for the park programs and will present it to the town council when finished. A discussion followed.

Ms. Orlich went on to discuss different meetings that she has had with multiple members of the community as an effort to set up a variety of activities and programs for the spring and summer.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Renewal of Joint Interlocal Cooperation agreement with the Town of Winfield. Mr. Lake stated this will be an ongoing agreement with a 30 day opt out. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Hardaway. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mrs. Miano was absent, no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mrs. Barron announced we have enough caps for three benches and are qualified to be put on the list for a free bench.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

Mr. Hardaway had no report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

None

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BZA ACTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Closed in observance of Presidents' Day, February 16, 2015
Plan Commission meeting, *cancelled* for February 17, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.
Town Council Workshop, February 18, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Environmental Resource Committee meeting, February 19, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.
Town Council meeting, February 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded at 6:43 p.m.

Tom Goralczyk, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer